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Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street N.W., Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

I am addressing in this letter the settlement agreement in U.S. v. Microsoft, and its benefits for our state and America's economy.

Frankly, this case has run its course after four years and the tremendous financial investment by federal and state governments, and the Microsoft Corporation. I am aware that nine of the 18 states in the antitrust case have chosen not to agree to settle, but I think it speaks more loudly and convincingly when nine states and the U.S. Department of Justice agree that this case has reached a satisfactory conclusion.

As someone who has served on county and city boards which were created a better quality of life, I am very pleased that a positive result of this case will be the distribution of computers, software and support for low income schools in the nation. Our state will certainly benefit, particularly among the Indian populations where some of America's poorest counties are found.

I am also pleased that this agreement indicates that this court action will finally end, and Microsoft will be able to refocus its energies to providing the leadership in information technologies. Because Microsoft has blazed the path, America's technology industry has been a cornerstone to our nation's economic position in the world. Please do what you can to allow this agreement to be implemented so that we can all move forward. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Nancy Waxdahl